

FOREST HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

MINUTES

Monday, November 6, 2017

In Attendance

Linda Blom, Principal
Cindy MacNeice, Vice Principal
Debra Kapy, Council Co-Chair
Marian MacGregor, Council Co-Chair
Stacey Bock (Teacher Rep)
Mr. Shane L. Henry (Guest Speaker)
Jen Morrison (Secretary)

Erin Nightingale
Veronica Lewis
Jennifer Hussey
Laura Lighthouse
Sue Leon
Trish Barker
Donna Henderson

Special Guest Presentation – Bullying: What it is and why to stop it!

Mr. Shane Henry, lawyer and parent, spoke about his experience with the school in regards to his child being bullied and how it was handled. Key points from his presentation are as follows:

- Education Act defines bullying as well as board responsibilities. Working definition: use of force, threat, coercion to abuse, intimidate or aggressively dominate others; repetitive in nature. From SCDSB website: “Children who bully others have learned that aggressive behavior is an efficient means of gaining status, power and control.”
- School board has a responsibility to prevent bullying, provide support for students who have been bullied. Concern about wait list for professional services, interim measures use school staff to ensure the situation is managed as well as possible. Some schools have on site child/youth support worker(s), based on needs of school
- Limited info on SCDSB webpage. Can log an anonymous complaint (safe reporting tool). 4 types: physical, verbal, social, cyber. Low reporting due to fear of retaliation, being outcast
- Signs: desire to stay home from school, desire to skip activities or social events with other students, sudden losses of money or personal items, coming home with torn clothing
- Bill 157 Keep our Kids Safe at School (2009). All board employees to report to the principal if they become aware that a student is being or was bullied. Timely disclosure to parent/guardian
- Parental Responsibility Act. Parents Liability – Small Claims Court where a parent of a bully can be held liable to pay for damages. Reverse Onus (parent of bully must prove to the court that their child did not bully)
- Barrie Police Service: Bully Button. Confidential reporting. Link also on page of area high schools
- Disciplining the bully: apology, review of expectations, meeting with parents/guardians, anger management counselling, suspending student
- Challenge to transfer training/role plays into real life when incidents happen
- **Seeking parent volunteer for Safe School Committee**

- Erin Nightingale recommended Dr. Tony Attwood as a potential speaker and Trish Barker suggested a court house visit. Council will revisit this discussion at a future meeting.
- A link to Safe School Reporting is on the FHPS homepage.

Welcome – Debra Kaptv

- List of meeting dates sent to council and posted on website along with updated member list etc. Other areas of website need updating (lunch, events, Karen Gordon etc). Mrs. MacNeice took note of items for updating and deleting.

Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Oct 2, 2017. Add Sue Leon to list of attendees, otherwise accepted.

Principal's Report - Linda Blom

- In middle of progress reports, going well with new format (Power Teacher), reports will be going home Friday. A few technical glitches. Have set up most of interviews. Teachers with exception of Mme MacGregor (surgery) will be available next week.
- All teams up and running. Flag football short but fun season. Very grateful for parents and teachers who help.
- Lunch programs are going very well, no complaints or issues.
- Superintendent documents submitted. Safe schools committee names to be finalized. Superintendent visit 14 Nov 17, may invite parents to join in discussion, usually involves students and teachers. Marian and Debra available and willing to meet with him if asked. School action plan is to be extension of previous year's school improvement plan (geometry and spatial sense to encourage communication of mathematical thinking through board games etc). Will continue with that focus in primary, adding proportional reasoning for upper grades (4 – 8) (concepts such as rate, ratio). Math application scores in EQAO for Gr 6 at 93% which is excellent.

Teacher's Report - Stacey Bock

- French spelling bee proposal. Canadian National Spelling Bee will be held in the New Year at Nouvelle Alliance. Concern expressed competing against French first language schools. Mme Bock may not advertise but may select a student if promising. \$40 per student, request funding from council. Council supported subsidizing up to \$80 for 1 – 2 students to participate at Mme Bock's discretion.
- Field trip to Georgian for Peter Pan. Concern about picket line and possible delay.
- Remembrance Day Friday 9:30 and 11:30 assemblies.
- Ukelele club doing well, Lego (Tue/Thu) and robotics (Wed) start this week.

Dance-A-Thon - Laura Lighthouse

- \$5500 raised, kids had fun, ran out of items in cosmic store. Ideas for next year – class pizza party or Menchie's to encourage fundraising. Kindergarten's enjoyed their time, right duration. Time in line waiting to purchase items problematic – suggest selling items day before and keep in classrooms.

Volunteer Update - Debra Kaptv

- 115 enlisted volunteers after two training sessions. List has been updated and plan is to target volunteer emails to parents associated with a class/teacher for a class-level events and to entire list for school wide events.

Fundraising Update – Marian MacGregor

- Plan sent to Board, but may still be subject to adjustment. FundScrip (Gift card Fundraiser) forms sent home. Basket raffle is scheduled for December. Mrs. Blue to organize, info to be sent home in coming weeks.
- Food program: Mucho Burrito, hot dogs, pizza and pasta going well. Twisted Indian going well, would like to continue into next session. For the next session, hoping to add a butter and parmesan option for the pasta lunch.
- Former school council member, Annette Lymbertos, new owner of Linda's Diner is planning to apply to get on the list of approved vendors and possibly provide a new lunch for the next session – maybe chili.

Wendy's & Camp Fair – Veronica Lewis

- Third Wed in Jan, Veronica to contact Wendy's to set up.
- Camp Fair 10 Feb 17. Blast email early Dec. Any suggestions for vendors please send to Veronica. **Seeking volunteers for the event day.** No fee for vendors, only a donation for the silent auction.

New Business

- WOW Butter (peanut butter substitute) not allowed, notice will be added to newsletter.
- Yellow wrist bands for suspected concussions still in effect. Only 1 issued one so far this school year.
- Library carpet still in need of replacement, was supposed to be done last year.
- Furniture for library showcased, very popular with kids.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Date of Next School Council Meeting

- Monday, January 8, 2018 @ 7:00 pm in the Library

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Please forward items by Friday January 5, 2018 to the Council Chairs at councilchairfor@scdsb.on.ca